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BLACK SUMATRAS.

This variety of fowls takes its name from the island of Sumatra, where they are said to be still found in the wild state. The first importation to America was made in the year 1857. They do not seem to have ever become generally popular, although those who have bred them claim that they are good layers, and also good table fowls. They are said to be of rather a wild and restless disposition, which may account in a great measure for their slow progress in popular favor.

They are described as follows:—Head, very broad, with a powerful beak; eyes, small, fiery and

snaky, with a red iris and jet black pupil; tail, very long and flowing, with abundant plume and sickle feathers sweeping the ground, and in this respect more closely resembling the bird of Paradise than any other of the gallinaceous race; body, compact and unusually symmetrical; color, black, of a metallic lustre; legs, sinewy, with a powerful thigh.

Mr. G. H. Pugsley, of Brantford, is the only fancier in Canada we know of who has had this variety, and parties who have seen his birds say the illustration given above very much resembles them.